



Media Release

Point of Contact:
Shannon Gowan
Director of Communications
254.298.5600 office | 254.493.1271 cell

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Council Adopts Amendments to Animal Ordinance

TEMPLE, TX – (September 4, 2015) At their regularly scheduled meeting last evening, the Temple City Council approved amendments to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, “Animals and Fowl”.

In response to recent citizen inquiries requesting consideration of amending the City ordinance relating to the keeping of chickens, the Animal Services Advisory Board requested City staff to draft an amendment to the ordinance that would change the provisions that allow for the keeping of chickens within the City of Temple. The current wording of the City ordinance prohibits the keeping of chickens except if kept at least 150 feet from nearest residence other than the owner or keeper.

At its July 13, 2015 meeting, the Animal Services Advisory Board voted unanimously to recommend to the City Council approval of an ordinance amending the section of Chapter 6 that addresses the keeping of chickens.

The approved change allows hens to be kept in a residential zoning district if kept at least 50 feet from the nearest residence under the following provisions:

1. No more than 6 hens;
2. Must be kept in a pen or enclosure;
3. Enclosure must be clean, secure, ventilated, and large enough for the animal to move freely;
4. Enclosure must meet any applicable standards or permit requirements found in the Unified Development Code;
5. Accumulation of waste creating obnoxious odor and/or health hazard prohibited; and
6. Roosters prohibited.

In addition to the changes relating to the provisions associated with keeping of chickens, the City Council also adopted non-substantive changes relating to general clean-up of Chapter 6.

###